

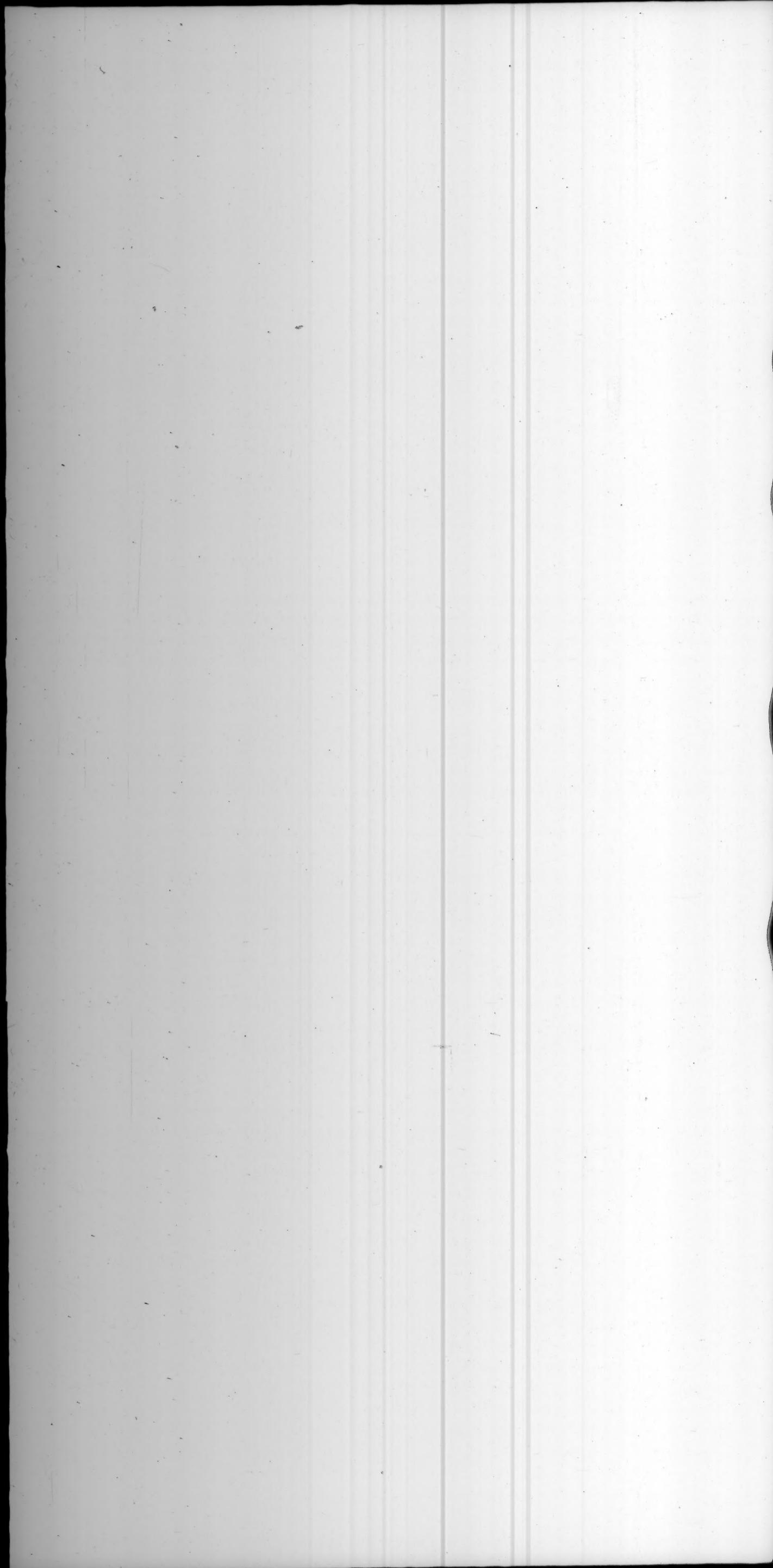


¶ By the King.

¶ A Proclamation to declare, that all Ships carying  
Corne, or other Victuals, or any Munition of VVarde, to, or  
for the King of Spaine, or any of his Subiects, shall be, and ought  
to be esteemed as lawfull Prize.



¶ Ocasmuch as the many iniurys and indignities, obtruded vpon the Kings most excellent Maiestie, and his most deare and onely sister, and her children, and his royll father, of euer blessed memory, deceased, by the King of Spaine, vnder colour of treaties and alliances; the many violences offered by him, to diuers of his Maiesties Subiects, in taking, slaying, and ransoming diuers of them in a hostile manner, whilist they intended onely their Marchandise at Sea; The king of Spaines restlesse ambition to aspree to an vniuersall Monarchie, discouered to the wholle world, to the dilquieting of that peace, which other Princes, and States his neighbours, would gladly rest in and injoy; Haue, out of an vnauidable necessitie, drawne His most excellent Maiestie, to take vp Armes against the said King, for the defence of himselfe, his Dominions, and Subiects, and of other Princes and States, His Confederates and Allies, there being none other safe meane for the obtayning of an assured Peace to himselfe, and his Subiects, and to his Confederates, and Allies, which his Highnesse shall be euer most ready to imbrac, when with safety, and honour it may be had: His maiestie in his Princely Wisedome and prouidence, foreseeing that, whilist the said King of Spaine continueth in these termes and courses of hostilitie, it is neither agreeable with the rules of policie, or Law of nations, to permit the said King, or his subiects, to be furnished and supplied with Corne, Victuals, Armes, or prouision for his Shipping, Manie, or Armes, if the same can be preuented. For although these violent hostilitiis of the said King of Spaine, to the trouble of a great part of the Christian Dominions, are mightily maintained by the abundance of his treasure from the Indies, wherein he trusteth, and with the opinion whereof he is puffed vp: Yet it is manifest, that to maintaine his Armes, and renew his Shipping, his moneys, in their proper nature, would not suffice, if he were not continually supplied with Corne, and other Victuals, and furnished with Munition, and materials for Armes, and Shipping from forreigne countreys, whereof, neither his Indies, nor Spaine, nor any other part of his owne Dominions are able to serue; but the same are knownen to bee brought into Spaine, Portugall, Burgundie, and other his countreys, from other forreigne parts, not in his owne subiectioun, and that especially, from the Hans-townes, and Merchants of the North East Countreys, who for the desire of game, are conciented to furnish the said King, though to their owne extreme hazzard, and preuidice of their neighbours, with all things requisite, to maintaine his vniust Warres: For this cause, His Maiestie being, amongst other Princes and States, hercun principally interested, for the defence of himselfe, his Countreys, and Subiects, against the said King of Spaines great preparations of his Manies, and Armes by Sea, and by Land; and His Maiestie being perswaded, that if such his prouisions for hostilitie, to be brought unto him by Sea from forreigne parts, might be stayed, or interrupted, vntill the said King might bee disposed to live in peace, His Maiestie might the sooner forbeare to continue his charge, in maintaining his forces, both by Sea and Land, which hee is now constrained yeerely to renew, onely for the iust defence of himselfe, and his Dominions, and of his Confederats, and Allies:



Doth by these presents, by the advice of his Prince Counsele, notifie to all maner of persons of all conditions, that shall send or carry into Spaine, Portugal, Burgundy, or any other the said King of Spaines Countreyes or Dominions, any maner of Graine or other Victuals, or any manner of Provisions, to serue to build, furnish or Arme any Ships of Warre, or any kind of Munition for the Warre, or Materials for the same, being not of the nature of meete Merchandize, that, as it is lawfull for His Maiesie, being a Monarch and Prince Souereigne, and as other Kings in like cases haue alwayes used to doe, Hee will not onely authorize his owne Admirals, and Captaines of his owne Ships of Warre, seruing on the Seas, but will also allow and approue all other His Subjects, to Arme their Ships at their will, and with them to impeach and arrest all Ships, that shall Saile, either out of the East parts, or out of the Low Countries, or from any other parts, with intention to passe to Spaine, Portugal, Burgundy, or any other the King of Spaines Countreyes or Dominions, or to any the said King of Spaines Ships, being on the Seas, haing on Board any such Graine, Victuall, or provisions of Warre, or Furniture for shipping, or Materials for the same, and the same to bring into the next good Port, there to bee ordered, as Goods dually forfeited for the benefit of His Maiesie, where his Maiesies Shippes shall arrest the same, and to the benefit of such others, as being not in his Maiesies Wages, shall by their traute and aduerture haue stayed and arrested such Ships and Goods prohibited: Provided, that all others, besides the Captaines of his Maiesies owne Ships, that shall be disposed to Arme their Ships for this purpose, shall first notifie their intent to the Lord high Admirall of England, making declaration of their condition, of their maner of shipping, of the Furniture there-of, of the number of men requisite to serue therem, with their quantities of Victuall and Munition, and of all other things requisite to bee certified to the Lord Admirall, which being by him allowed, thereupon the Owners of the said Ships, and the Captaines and Conductors thereof, to bee bound, to His Maiesies use, in good summes of money for themselves, and, as cause shall require, to the Lord Admirall, with sufficient Sureties, that they doe their best endeuour, without feare, for game or composition, to arrest such Ships, haing as is abovesayd, Graine, Victuall, Armes, Munition, or Furniture for shipping, or any Materials for the same, intended to bee carried to any of the sayd King of Spaines Dominions, or Countreyes, as aforesaid, and likewise to bee bound, as is aforesayd, that with the sayd Ships, no harme shall bee wittingly done to any person on the Seas, being in friendship with his Maiesie, and that shall not bee pente to the carriage of any such Graine, Victuall, Provision, Furniture or Materials, into any the sayd King of Spaines Dominions, or towards any of his Countreyes, or to any the King of Spaines Ships being on the Seas: And in case any shall be found to haue committed any such offence, whereby their Bonds shall bee forfeited, the parties dammified shall be fully recompensed for all their Losses and Damages, with the summes of money forfeited, and otherwise, as there shall bee cause, and the offendours also severely punished, according to their offences, by due course of Law.

Given at Our Honour of Hampton Court, the 31. of December, in the first yeere of Our Reigne.

God saue the King.

¶ Imprinted at London by Bonham Norton and Iohn Bill, Printers  
to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie.

M.D.C.XXV.